

MUNICIPAL OVERVIEW: PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP



**MOTTO: "PAX IN VIRTUTE"
(PEACE IN VIRTUE)**

TOTAL SQUARE MILES: 6.95 **POPULATION:** 13,888 (as of 2000 Census)
TOTAL SURVEYED HISTORIC RESOURCES: 54

SITES LOST SINCE 1986¹:

- 1431-0009, H. Roome House, 74 Sunset Road. Demolished.

RESOURCES DOCUMENTED BY HABS/HAER/HALS:

- 1431-0040, "Martin Berry House," HABS NJ-546 "Martin Berry House, Jackson Avenue & Route 23, Pompton Plains, Morris County, NJ." File contains 22 measured drawings, 5 ca. 1930's photos and 3 data pages.

RESOURCES LISTED IN OR DETERMINED ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER BY NJHPO²: 9

Grace Chapel 529 Newark-Pompton
Turnpike, SHPO ID# 4125

Paul DeBow House 150 Mountain Avenue, SHPO
ID# 2221

Pompton Plains Passenger Station (AKA
Pequanock Station), SHPO ID# 3735

Ackerson-Clark House 183 Mountain Avenue, SHPO
ID# 3918

Martin Berry House 581 Route 23, SHPO
ID# 2220, NR ID# 73001129

Bank Barn 207 Mountain Avenue, SHPO ID# 2219

Paul Barney DeBow House 134 Mountain
Avenue, SHPO ID# 2222

"Prehistoric Site" 28-Mr-198, SHPO ID# 2218

"Prehistoric Site" 28-Mr-199, SHPO ID# 3585

HISTORIC PRESERVATION ELEMENT MORRIS COUNTY (HPEMC):

Pequanock is in "Region A," with 9 sites

A8 Martin Berry House, 581 Route 23

A9 John DeBow House, 150 Mountain Avenue

A10 Paulus DeBow Plantation, 134 Mountain Avenue

A11 Giles Mandeville House, 515 Newark-Pompton Turnpike

A12 Thomas Mandeville Homestead, 679 Newark-Pompton Turnpike

A13 Reformed Dutch Church and Chapel, 525 Newark-Pompton Turnpike

A14 Slingerland Homestead, 143 Boulevard

A15 Van Gelder-Van Saun House, 770 Newark-Pompton Turnpike

A16 Van Ness House (site) Village Road

MUNICIPAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION: Yes

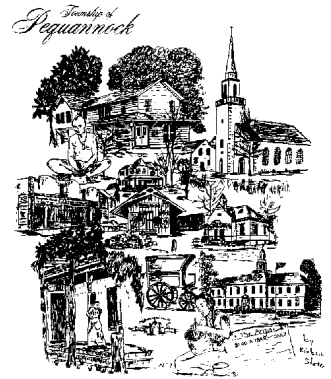
LOCALLY DESIGNATED RESOURCES: None.

¹ Documentation gathered, including completed investigative memorandum, can be found in the "Lost Sites Documentation" file, located at the Morris County Planning Office, Morristown, New Jersey.

² Resources with National Park Service and/or NJ Historic Preservation Office determination.

HISTORIC ELEMENT IN MUNICIPAL MASTER PLAN? Yes

HISTORICAL SUMMARY: Pequannock Township is one of the four original townships that comprised Morris County from 1740 until the mid-1800s. The name “Pequannock” is taken from the Lenape name “Paquettahnuake” (meaning “cleared land”). The boundaries of Pequannock Township changed over time as individual municipalities separated from the township. In the mid-19th century, more developed areas such as Boonton and Montville created their own municipalities. In the early 20th century, several others followed suit. Butler (1901), Lincoln Park (1922), Kinnelon (1923), and Riverdale (1923) each separated from Pequannock as their populations increased and governance by the Township became more difficult for its broad area of coverage.



Land in this area was purchased as early as 1695 by a group of New Yorkers, who settled along the east side of the Pequannock River. In these early days, agriculture was key to the success of the families that settled here, especially in the southern portion of the Township (the present Pompton Plains area). As early as 1712, there were saw mills and gristmills in the area, but industry did not flourish in the Township until the 1800s. The American Revolution affected Pequannock just as it did the rest of Morris County; although no battles were fought in this area, early industries supported the troops and their needs. The Newark Pompton Turnpike, which opened in 1807, provided a link to Newark. This road became the center of the community as businesses, churches and residences located along the Pike. The railroad arrived in Pequannock Township in the 1870s, and was followed quickly by rapid suburban development. The Montclair and Greenwood Lake Railroad (later the New York and Greenwood Lake Railroad and the Montclair and Greenwood Lake Branch of the Erie Railroad, c. 1890) ran from Sterling Forest at the New York state line south to West Milford Township in Passaic County. The growth of Pequannock Township can be traced to the opening of rail lines into the area. The opening of the Pompton Plains Train Station in the 1870s indicated a shift from a community dependent on agriculture to a suburban community.

MUNICIPAL WEBSITE: www.pequannocktownship.org

LOCAL HISTORIC SOCIETY: None found.

SOURCES: Acroterion, www.pequannocktownship.org, Morris County Department of Planning, Development, & Technology, KSK Survey.